

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 28, 2000 LR 291

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And he continues his depredation and she has no place to turn. How would you all feel, the women on this floor? What difference would it make to you all? Obviously, it makes no difference because I have not seen the women on this floor take issue with the wrongful things these judges have been doing, and do it in a public way so they know that women are offended if the men are not. Women, who have been young mothers, who would not know how to handle the situation where your job, your income are threatened, and your child, the welfare of your child is even used as a stick to prevent you from even trying to seek redress.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. We are now open for discussion on the motion to indefinitely postponed LR 291CA. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, you know why I referred to my women colleagues? Because if the women who are in public office are not going to say anything, if they, too, are intimidated and cowed on these issues that address their problems directly, what is the ordinary woman out there struggling under these circumstances to do? If they see a female Attorney General of the United States treated dismissively and whose authority based on her position is not respected, what are they to do and what are they to think? But I've heard more concern expressed about the sanctity of the two-party system on this floor than I have the welfare of citizens who are victimized by the judicial system, judges and lawyers. And it is one of those things that causes me to do as long as I can what Mary is said to have done. She kept these things and pondered them in her heart. But unlike Mary, I have a voice and I can speak. And after I've pondered these things in the location where a heart would be, if I had a heart, which I don't have, after I've pondered these things, then I know that something has to be done by somebody. And perhaps in the bigger sweep of things, it's like standing on the seashore with a broom trying to sweep the ocean back. But we must do what is available for us to do, whether it's little or whether it is much. But I will tell you all this, I have received letters of gratitude from women who have been victimized by these judges.